

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 04096 021139Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01

PPT-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 068827

R 020941Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1850

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4096

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJECT: REINVESTIGATION OF MARCOS ASSASSINATION PLOT

REF: A) MANILA 3847 B) MANILA 3383

BEGIN SUMMARY: PANEL HEADED BY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL WILL BEGIN REINVESTIGATION OF MARCOS ASSASSINATION PLOT APRIL 3. PANEL CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT THAT PRESIDENT WANTS CASE REINVESTIGATED TO DETERMINE MORE DEFINITELY VARIOUS DEFENDENTS' INVOLVEMENT IN ALLEGED PLOT WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR MARCOS TO MODIFY OR DROP CHARGES AGAINST LOPEZ, JR. AND PERHAPS OTHER DEFENDENTS AS WELL IF HE SAW ADVANTAGE IN DOING SO. END SUMMARY.

1. ON APRIL 1, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE ANNOUNCED THAT A FIVE-MAN PANEL HEADED BY THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE ARMED FORCES (GEN. SANTOS). WILL OPEN REINVESTIGATION HEARINGS APRIL 3 ON CRIMINAL CHARGES FILED AGAINST SENATOR SERGIO OSMENA, JR. AND AT LEAST 11 OTHERS, INCLUDING EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR., SERGIO OSMENA III, AND AMCIT LEHMAN. ACCORDING TO DND, THE INVESTIGATION IS INTENDED TO REEVALUATE EVIDENCE IN ALLEGED ASSASSINATION PLOT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE: A) WHETHER OFFENSES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED AND IF SO, WHAT IS THEIR NATURE, AND B) WHETHER PERSONS HELD LIABLE ARE PROBABLY GUILTY AND IF SO, WHAT CHARGES SHOULD BE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 04096 021139Z

FILED AGAINST THEM. FIVE-MAN PANEL WHICH INCLUDES UNDER-

SECRETARY OF JUSTICE (MACARAIG), CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR (NOCON), QUEZON CITY FISCAL (CORTEZ) AND MANILA FISCAL (GAMBOA) WAS CREATED BY PRESIDENTIAL LETTER OF INSTRUCTION 255 ISSUED MARCH 6, 1975. PRESS REPORTS GENERAL SANTOS STATED PRESIDENT MARCOS WANTED CASE REINVESTIGATED TO ENSURE RESPONDENTS "GOT FULL BENEFITS OF DUE PROCESS" AND "TO DETERMINE MORE DEFINITELY THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN CASE."

2. COMMENT: DAILY EXPRESS OF APRIL 2 HEADLINES ITS FRONT-PAGE ACCOUNT OF INVESTIGATION "GOVERNMENT PANEL TO HEAR RAPS AGAINST OSMENA." PICTURES OF OSMENA AND HIS SON (SERGIO III) APPEAR ON INSIDE PAGES BUT NO PICTURE OF EUGENIO LOPEZ JR. BULLETIN COLUMNIST VALENCIA ON APRIL 2 NOTES THAT HEARINGS ARE "NOT TRIAL BUT MERELY DOCUMENTATION OF CASES AGAINST THE ACCUSED JUST IN CASE THERE WILL BE TRIALS". MARCOS MAY WISH TO DOWNPLAY LOPEZ JR.'S INVOLVEMENT IN ALLEGED PLOT IN VIEW POSSIBLE PSINAKIS VISIT (REFTEL-). GENERAL SANTOS' STATEMENT ABOUT PRESIDENT'S DESIRE DETERMINE MORE DEFINITELY RESPONDENTS' INVOLVEMENT SUGGESTS MARCOS MIGHT WISH OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE COMMISSION DETERMINE LOPEZ JR. (AND POSSIBLY OTHERS) PARTICIPATION MARGINAL; AND RELEASE LOPEZ AFTER HE HAS ASSURANCES LOPEZ FAMILY'S ANTI-MARCOS CAMPAIGN IN US WILL BE TERMINATED.  
SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, COURT DECISIONS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, PLOTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MANILA04096  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750113-1167  
**From:** MANILA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750490/aaaaddr.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 MANILA 3847, 75 MANILA 3383  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REINVESTIGATION OF MARCOS ASSASSINATION PLOT  
**TAGS:** PINT, RP, (MARCOS, FERDINAND), (LOPEZ, EUGENIO), (OSMENA, SERGIO III), (PSINAKIS, STEVE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006